



MICHIGAN UNITED CONSERVATION CLUBS

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February 8, 2017

House Tourism and Outdoor Recreation
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Dear House Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Committee,

Michigan United Conservation Clubs would like to welcome all new State Representatives and committee members this session, and give some background information to anyone who was unable to attend the Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus Advisory Council welcome briefing and reception last week.

Michigan United Conservation Clubs is the largest statewide conservation organization in the nation. Founded in 1937, our mission is to unite citizens to conserve, protect and enhance Michigan's natural resources and outdoor heritage. With over 50,000 hunters, anglers, trappers and conservationists and over 200 affiliated local clubs around the state, our strength is in our membership. By harnessing and combining the strength of Michigan's outdoor community, we strive to protect conservation from politics.

Michigan is a state with a rich outdoor tradition. Today, nearly two million sportsmen and women take to Michigan's woods and waters each year with friends and family to hunt, fish, trap and enjoy everything that Pure Michigan has to offer. In doing so, these sportsmen and women make up a significant portion of Michigan's tourism economy, spending roughly \$4.8 billion directly in the state each year, which has an economic ripple effect to the tune of \$8.2 billion annually for the state and local economies. This spending also generates about \$643 million in federal taxes and \$576 million in state and local taxes each year. These sportsmen and women also pay the greatest share of conservation expenses in our state, through license fees and federal excise taxes on sporting equipment.

Attached is the Advisory Council's 2017 Conservation Briefs, which gives background information on some of the pertinent laws and past accomplishments that have been achieved through the help of the Sportsmen's Caucus and member group organizations. We look forward to working with the members of the House Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Committee to ensure that our time-honored sportsmen's traditions are protected and advanced during the 2017-2018 legislative sessions. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact MUCC at (517) 346-6484.

Sincerely,

Amy Trotter, Deputy Director



ADVISORY COUNCIL

MISSION: To advance Michigan's outdoor heritage through science-based wildlife and fisheries management and the wise use of our state's natural resources, and to protect and advance the rights and traditions of Michigan citizens to hunt, fish, recreationally shoot and trap by engaging in an open dialogue with the Michigan Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus

Michigan Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus 2017 Calendar of Events

- January 31, 2017: Briefing/welcome event followed by reception (sponsored by the Advisory Council)
- February 9, 2017 -Caucus Breakfast and Advisory Council meeting to follow
- March 9, 2017-Caucus Breakfast (MHDF/MBHA/UPBHA)
- April 1, 2017: Conservation tour of the Maple River State Game Area (Ducks Unlimited)
- April 13, 2017- Caucus Breakfast (UPSA) and Advisory Council meeting to follow
- May (Date TBD): Afternoon Outdoors and Wild Game Dinner at the Capital Area Sportsmen's League
- May 15-Bass Fishing Trip on Lake St. Clair (Michigan BASS and The Bass Federation)
- July (Date TBD)-Salmon Fishing on Lake Michigan (MSSFA)
- August 19, 2017-Bear Dog Training Day, various northern and UP locations (MHDF/MBHA/UPBHA)
- September 14, 2017-Caucus Breakfast and Advisory Council meeting to follow
- November 9, 2017- Caucus Breakfast and Advisory Council meeting to follow
- December 14, 2017-Caucus Breakfast

Voting Members include: Michigan United Conservation Clubs; Michigan Steelhead & Salmon Fishermen's Association; Safari Club International; Zero-Day; Ducks Unlimited; Michigan B.A.S.S.; Michigan Bear Hunters Association; Michigan Hunting Dog Federation; Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers Association; National Rifle Association; National Wild Turkey Federation; Pheasants Forever; Trout Unlimited; U.P. Bear Houndsmen Association; Upper Peninsula Sportsmen's Alliance
Ex-Officio Members: Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation and the Hal and Jean Glassen Memorial Foundation